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Abstract of the Invention

A multi-layer wound dressing comprising at least two absorbent layers, and materials for forming absorbent layers are provided. The absorbent layers have different absorbencies, with the layer closest to the wound having a lower absorbency than the layer furthest from the wound. The wound dressing typically contains additional non-absorbing layers, such as a backing film and wound-facing film. The dressing provides absorbency of wound exudates while preventing the absorbent material from entering the wound. In specific implementations the dressing is substantially transparent prior to application to a wound, as well as after application to the wound when body fluids have been absorbed.